

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 179546
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179546

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP TO PRESIDENT
PARK ON ACCESS TO KIM DONG-JO

1. FOLLOWING FOR INFO ONLY AT THIS TIME IS TEXT OF LETTER
DATED JULY 14 FROM SPEAKER O'NEILL AND MINORITY LEADER
RHODES TO ROK PRESIDENT PARK REGARDING ACCESS TO KIM
DONG-JO. SCENARIO REGARDING CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND
DELIVERY OF THIS LETTER SENT SEPTTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

A. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: WE ARE SENDING THIS MESSAGE TO
YOU BECAUSE WE FEEL IT NECESSARY AS LEADERS OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES TO PERSONALLY NOTIFY YOU THAT THE HOUSE
HAS CLEARLY INDICATED ITS DISPLEASURE CONCERNING CERTAIN
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ACTIVITIES, OR INACTIVITIES, ON THE PART OF YOUR GOVERNMENT.
THIS IS A DEVELOPMENT NOT GOOD FOR EITHER OF OUR COUNTRIES.

B. FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE DIFFICULT PROCESS, MANDATED BY OUR
CONSTITUTION AND DEMANDED BY OUR PEOPLE, OF INVESTIGATING
ALLEGATIONS THAT MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ACCEPTED GIFTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF

KOREA. CERTAIN INFORMATION GATHERED

THUS FAR SHOWS THAT SUCH ACTIVITY MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

ACCORDINGLY, THE HOUSE MUST FULFILL ITS DUTY TO FIND OUT WHAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS DID AND TO APPLY SANCTIONS TO ANY AMERICAN OFFICIALS WHO MAY HAVE ACTED WRONGFULLY UNDER OUR CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES.

C. LET US EMPHASIZE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE HOUSE DOES NOT SEEK TO EMBARRASS THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, NOR TO AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND KOREA. THE INVESTIGATION DOES NOT ENCOMPASS PASSING JUDGMENT ON WHETHER SUCH ACTIVITY WAS PERMITTED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT OR THE MORALITY OF THE GIFTGIVING, WHETHER IT WAS CARRIED ON WITH OR WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF OFFICIALS IN SEOUL. THE STANDARD APPLIED IS OUR OWN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. OUR EXCLUSIVE FOCUS IS UPON THE CONDUCT OF OUR OFFICIALS.

D. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS POSED BY THE INVESTIGATION WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF CITIZENS OF YOUR NATION. WITH YOUR BLESSING, FOR WHICH WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL, MR. PARK TONG SUN PROVIDED US WITH DETAILS WHICH WE COULD HAVE NEVER OBTAINED OTHERWISE. BUT WE MUST TELL YOU THAT THE INVESTIGATION IS INCOMPLETE.
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E. ONCE AGAIN, MR. PRESIDENT, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MUST TURN TO YOU AND ASK YOUR HELP TO TAKE THE FINAL STEP IN OUR INVESTIGATION. IT IS BELIEVED ANOTHER CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, MR. KIM DONG-JO, IS IN POSSESSION OF INFORMATION THAT WILL LEAD TO COMPLETION OF OUR INVESTIGATION. WE URGENTLY REQUEST YOUR GOVERNMENT'S ASSISTANCE TO CONVINCE MR. KIM TO COME FORWARD VOLUNTARILY AND TO PROVIDE TO OUR INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AND ITS STAFF THE ANSWERS TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR MR. KIM.

F. AS YOU ARE AWARE WE HAVE LONG SOUGHT THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS AND HAVE GONE SO FAR AS TO PROVIDE DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING THEM TO YOUR DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON, AMBASSADOR KIM YONG SHIK. THE QUESTIONS RELATE TO CERTAIN ALLEGED PAYMENTS TO AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND DO NOT RELATE TO THE POLICIES OR OFFICIAL DUTIES OF ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THEY ARE DRAWN NARROWLY SO THAT IN OUR OPINION THE SOVEREIGN AND DIPLOMATIC INTEGRITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA CANNOT BE INFRINGED UPON BY MR. KIM'S VOLUNTARILY

COMING FORWARD TO RESPOND TO THEM UNDER OUR DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES. WE ASK ONLY TO BE ASSURED THAT THE QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED FORTHRIGHTLY AND THAT THEIR VERACITY

WILL BE AFFIRMED BY MR. KIM.

G. MR. PRESIDENT, WE WANT YOU TO BE AWARE OF THE PERILOUS CIRCUMSTANCES THAT SURROUND OUR REQUEST. THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WILL NOT ACCEPT AN INCOMPLETE INVESTIGATION. NOR, WE MUST TELL YOU FRANKLY, WILL THEY UNDERSTAND WHY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA COULD NOT ASSIST US IN COMPLETING THE INVESTIGATION. WE FEAR CONTINUED EROSION OF OUR NATIONAL RELATIONSHIP UNLESS DECISIVE ACTION IS TAKEN.

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H. OUR REQUEST TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, IS FINAL. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PROMPT RESPONSE. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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